

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and at least one CIM repository a plurality of CIM repositories, said method comprising:

creating a connection between said object manager and each one of said at least one CIM repository said plurality of CIM repositories, wherein each one of said CIM repositories CIM repository has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository one of said CIM repositories and its associated the communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to a repository API associated with said CIM object manager, said protocol indicator identifying the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories, over said connection to said selected one of the plurality of CIM repository repositories; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories CIM repository is resident on said host computer.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories CIM repository is resident on a separate computer.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes

calling a JAVA factory class.

Claim 7 - Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer code for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host

computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and at least one-a plurality of CIM repositories, said computer code of said computer-readable medium effecting the following:

creating a connection between said object manager and each one of said at least one plurality of CIM repositories wherein each one of [[the]] said CIM repositories has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository one of said CIM repositories and its associated the communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to the repository API associated with said CIM object manager, said protocol indicator identifying the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol associated that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising computer code for effecting the following:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories, over said connection to said selected one of the plurality of CIM repository repositories; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said associated communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 17 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes
calling a JAVA factory class.